

Introduction to your boating holiday



In response to the current economic climate we are re-launching our Easy-Pay Scheme this year which allows you to spread the cost of your holiday with our easy payment plan. No upfront deposit is needed you just divide the total cost of your holiday to be paid in equal monthly payments. The earlier you book before the actual holiday date the less the monthly payments will be. See page 47 for further information.



*Edward Helps
Managing Director*

The changes we made to the way we deal with fuel in 2009 has been successful with many hirers receiving a refund making their actual holiday costs cheaper, so we are going to continue this arrangement in 2010. We are also able to reduce the fuel deposits to £75 for a week and £40 for a short break. Fuel deposits have proved to be the fairest way to operate as this means that you only pay for the fuel you use. Some of our customers wish to cruise for longer days and therefore it is only right that they should pay to do so rather than other customers who only wish to cruise short days subsidising them.

We have a new start location for 2010, Union Wharf located in the attractive and historic town of Market Harborough allowing you to cruise the Market Harborough arm and the Leicester section of the Grand Union Canal.

I would also like to remind you to order a map or guide to really get the most out of your holiday and the areas that you can visit along the way and you will find details of these on the route pages (12-27) and back cover.

We look forward to welcoming you aboard during 2010.





Green Holidays Campaign

Not only are you about to choose one of the most relaxing and rewarding holidays around, you are also choosing one of the 'greenest'. Starting the moment you board your floating home, a holiday cruising through some of the country's most breathtaking scenery, working the locks or sitting back with a glass of wine won't 'cost' the earth. In fact your holiday is estimated to be some 20* times better for the planet than spending two hours flying for a holiday overseas.

At no cost to you, we will continue donating a percentage of our profits to "The Waterways Trust Green Fund" to offset the environmental impact of your holiday. The Waterways Trust (www.thewaterwaystrust.org.uk/greenfund) is a registered charity which works to promote and protect Britain's waterways. If you wish, you can further reduce the impact of your holiday on the environment by offsetting your own travel to and from the boat with a voluntary donation through us to the same fund. We suggest £5.00 per car all of which will go directly to "The Waterways Trust Green Fund" which you can indicate on the booking form.

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In addition if you select Gift Aid when making your donation it will be worth even more. For every pound you give to the Waterways Trust they receive an extra 28 pence from the Inland Revenue. Simply select this on the documentation that we will send you once you have made your booking.

Following the launch of our greener holidays campaign in 2008 we are pleased to report on some of the projects which have benefited from donations from customers and ourselves to "The Waterways Trust Green Fund".

- A new section of traffic-free walking and cycling path has been constructed by Powys Council and Sustrans between Newtown, Llanllwchaearn and Aberbechan on the Montgomery Canal. The 1.5km trail, which received a grant from the Green Fund, is part of the Montgomery Canal Walking and Cycling Project and forms part of Route 81 of the National Cycle Network.

The new stretch allows people to travel more easily and safely between local communities. It also allows better access to the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust's Pwll Penarth wetland nature reserve by bike or on foot.

- The new Hanbury Lock Towpath will extend an existing route on the Birmingham & Worcester Canal, from Hanbury Wharf into Droitwich encouraging even more people to make use of the restored canals and visit the town.
- Funding has also contributed towards the opening of the Action Outdoors Centre, Falkirk. A brand new outdoor activity centre on the bank of the Union Canal, giving young people in the region the opportunity to get out and get active. The centre offers a wide range of activities both on the canal and in the surrounding area.

In addition to the donation that UK Boat Hire make for every holiday taken you may wish to further support the fund with a voluntary donation. Simply indicate this on your booking form.

* Based on flying a family of four to an average European location compared to a family of four taking an average hire boat holiday.

